

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06 OES-06 L-03

TRSE-00 SSO-00 STR-04 H-02 INRE-00 /050 W

-----240956Z 020024 /22

O 240933Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5515

USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 0260

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EWWT, TC

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR FAVORED NATION TREATMENT OF UAE SHIPS

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED UAE FOREIGN OFFICE NOTE REQUESTING THAT UAE SHIPS BE GRANTED FAVORED-NATION TREATMENT. NOTE WAS EXCEPTIONAL IN THAT IT WAS DELIVERED IN ENGLISH (EXPLANATION OFFERED WAS QUOTE WE DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO TRANSLATE IT INTO ARABIC UNQUOTE) AND ADMITTEDLY WRITTEN BY ARAB MARITIME PETROLEUM TRANSPORT CO. LAWYER. SUBSTANTIVE PART OF NOTE READS AS FOLLOWS QUOTE... UNITED ARAB EMIRATES FLAG VESSEL "UMM SHAIIF", NOW DISCHARGING IN LONG BEACH LOS ANGELES, U.S.A., IS BEING CHARGED HIGHER TONNAGE TAX AND LIGHT MONEY BECAUSE UAE IS NOT LISTED AS FAVORITE (SIC) NATION. FOR THIS REASON THE TAXATION IS U.S. \$1.06 PER NRT INSTEAD OF U.S. \$0.06 PER NRT. THE MINISTRY KINDLY REQUESTS THE EMBASSY TO CONTACT THE USA CONCERNED AUTHORITIES TO ACCORD UAE FLAG SHIPS FAVORITE NATION TREATMENT FOR WHICH UAE SIMILARLY RECIPROCATES. THE EMBASSY'S IMMEDIATE ADVICE TO USA AUTHORITIES MAY PLEASE BE CONVEYED AS OUR SHIP IS NOW IN USA PORT. UNQUOTE.

2. PERTINENT BACKGROUND INFO: "UMM SHAIIF" IS OWNED BY THE ARAB MARITIME PETROLEUM TRANSPORT CO (PO BOX 22525, KUWAIT) A TANKER COMPANY OWNED IN PARTNERSHIP BY THE OAPEC MEMBER STATES. AS UNCLASSIFIED

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A MATTER OF PRACTICE THE COMPANY REGISTERS ITS VESSELS WITH THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATES WHILE MAINTAINING OWNERSHIP AND OPERATIONAL CONTROL. "UMM SHAIIF" IS UNDER CHARTER TO THE CONSCOL PETROLEUM CORP OF HOUSTON, TEXAS FOR WHOM THE AGENTS ARE W.H. WIKERSSSHAN (BERTH 178, POBOX 1057, WILMINGTON, CAL. 90744, TELEX 910 345 6386, PHONE 213 549 1650).

3. ACCORDING TO MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM OFFICIAL, UAE MARITIME CODE WHICH WILL PERMIT REGISTRATION OF SHIPS HERE WAS WRITTEN ONLY FEW MONTHS AGO (PURCHASE OF UMM SHAIK BY ARAB MARITIME PETROLEUM CO WHICH IS PART OWNED BY UAEG WAS ONE OF MAIN REASONS CODE WAS WRITTEN), BUT ACCORDING TO ADVISOR TO ABU DHABI NATIONAL OIL CO (ADNOC) CODE HAS NOT YET BEEN PROMULGATED BY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MAKING IT UNCLEAR WHAT MEANING SHOULD BE GIVEN TO "UAE REGISTRATION". TO EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE, UMM SHAIK IS ONLY VESSEL IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE NOW "REGISTERED" IN UAE. ADNOC VESSELS ARE CURRENTLY REGISTERED IN LIBERIA.

4. THIS IS FIRST APPROACH OF THIS KIND TO BE MADE IN UAE, AND EMB REQUESTS INTERIM RESPONSE ASAP THAT CAN BE PASSED IMMEDIATELY TO FOREIGN MINISTRY WHILE DEFINITIVE ANSWER IS BEING DEVELOPED. WE PRESUME THAT DECISION ON ACCORDING UAE SHIPS FAVORED-NATION TREATMENT WILL TAKE SOME TIME, AND WOULD REQUIRE NEGOTIATION AND TREATY OF COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION BETWEEN US AND UAE. HOWEVER, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING IF THERE ARE ANY OTHER MECHANISMS.

DICKMAN

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: EWWT, TC, ARAB MARITIME PETROLEUM TRANSPORT
To: STATE COM
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